

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing replaces all prior listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of fabricating a stacked ~~stacked~~ structure comprising the following sequential steps:

a) selecting a first plate and a second plate such that a portion of at least one of the first and second plates has a ~~structured~~ surface having a roughness such that the surface is incapable of sticking to a surface of another plate,

b) producing a sacrificial layer on at least a ~~portion~~ part of the surface of the first plate or the surface of the second plate, and

c) bonding the first and second plates together, ~~by bonding the sacrificial layer to a remaining first or second plate,~~

~~wherein the structured surface contacts the sacrificial layer~~
the method further comprising a step of at least partly eliminating the sacrificial layer such that the portion at least partially faces the other plate.

2. – 4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~claim 4~~ claim 1 wherein selecting a first plate and a second plate further comprises ~~selecting~~ forming the structured surface having a roughness by increasing the roughness of the selected first or second plate ~~wherein the predetermined threshold is to~~ greater than approximately 0.2 nm root-mean-square (RMS).

6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein selecting comprises selecting a least one of the plates that initially includes a surface layer.

7. ((Previously presented)) The method according to claim 6, wherein selecting further comprises selecting at least one of the plates wherein the surface layer comprises a monocrystalline surface layer.

8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 6 wherein selecting further comprises selecting at least one of the plates wherein the surface layer comprises silicon.

9. – 10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~claim 9~~ claim 1 wherein further comprising forming the a surface layer comprising ~~comprises forming a layer of silicon nitride on one of the first or second plates.~~

12. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 further comprising smoothing at least one of a free surface of the sacrificial layer or a free surface of at least one of the plates before the bonding.

13. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 further comprising smoothing the free surface of the sacrificial layer and the free surface of at least one of the plates before the bonding.

14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein bonding comprises molecular bonding.

15. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein bonding comprises bonding with a sacrificial bonding agent.

16. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein bonding further comprises bonding assisted by at least one of a mechanical means, a plasma treatment, or a thermal treatment.

17. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises applying a selected atmosphere before bonding.

18. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 16 wherein assisting further comprises applying a selected atmosphere during bonding.

19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 16 wherein bonding further comprises exposing the two plates to an open air environment before bonding.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 16 wherein bonding further comprises bonding in an open air environment.

21. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 further comprising thinning at least one of the first or second plates after bonding.

22. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein a major portion of at least one of the plates comprises a semiconductor material.

23. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22 wherein the major portion comprises silicon.

24. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the sacrificial layer comprises silicon oxide.

25. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the sacrificial layer comprises a polymer.

26. (Currently amended) A stacked ~~stacked~~ structure fabricated by a method according to claim 1.

27. – 41. (Cancelled)